

10/6/11

AAI080975-11-018 Voice Recording System

Questions

1. Q - RE Question I- *The existing CVDS tapes which were recorded using the CVDS software*
A - DVD-RAM
2. Q - Can you tell me what type/model are the tapes used by the CVDS DLS2420? Are they DAT tapes? Or is this referring to DVR- CD's?
A - DVD-RAM 9.4GB Type 4
3. Q - Please verify that PASSIVE T1 interfacing is required as opposed to terminating T1 recording.
A – Correction...this should read Terminating T-1's that are required.
4. Q -Please verify that CVDS "TAPES" are the recording medium as opposed to hard drive or DVD-RAM.
A – DVD-RAM
5. Q - What is the recording format of the existing CVDS recordings? (i.e. .wav or something else?) Why must the record in MP3? WAV formats?
A – The existing recording format is that applicable to CVDS Model Number DLS2420. The exact specification is unknown to us. See answer #13 for clarification.
6. Q - Why does this solicitation for new RECORDERS require the replay of CVDS recordings? Would it not be more prudent, more economical and less "sole source" or "brand specific" to purchase a CVDS reproducer or playback software for the CVDS recordings and then purchase "fully open and competitive" T1 recorders required?
A – This is the requirement set by our customer. We are unable to deviate from this requirement.
7. Q - Does the Buy America Act fully pertain to this solicitation? If the end product bought from a US company is manufactured in Canada will that comply with the Buy America Act as currently enacted?
A - Please reference the Terms and Conditions that were attached to the solicitation for all applicable clauses.
8. Q - Can you not have the current CVDS replay function repaired at a more economical price than purchasing new recorders that will play back CVDS recordings?
A - The initial requirement was to repair these units, at that time a quote was given for both a new system and repairing the current system. The cost of the new system versus repairing the old system was more economical and feasible to purchase a new system than repairing a portion of the existing system.
9. Q - Would you like on-site support and maintenance rather than just phone support?

A – Phone Support is required.

10. Q - Please specifically and technically define “unstable”.

A – Unstable refers to the software running on the recorder either crashing, being non-responsive, or going into any abnormal state as to render the system unreliable to perform the primary *record* function of the unit. Basically, the need for the independent, processor controlled, device allows for an independent "audit" of the health of the system and its software for basic system operation. The action to initiate a system reset when the recorder's software becomes *unstable*, is not to rely on a person to acknowledge the massive system failure to restart or re-boot the system, but rather perform this task automatically - thus minimizing any possible down time. Although the system must obviously continuously self-test itself for many potential types of issues, ultimately the software cannot 100% check itself, hence the independent "watchdog" device.

Even though theory states that the system should remain *stable* for its lifetime, none-the-less, in this environment, we strive to take as many precautions as possible. As such, any system without this feature will not be considered for installation.

11. Q - Why are dry-alarm contacts mandatorily specified?

A - This is the requirement set by our customer. We are unable to deviate from this requirement.

12. Q - Please define with particularity what “major” and “minor” alarms mean technically.

A- Minor alarms refer to a condition that does not result in the loss of actual recordings nor the integrity of the recordings. Such an alarm does not necessarily require immediate attention. An example could be loss of a master time source. System time would be derived internally until the master time is restored - thus being a non-critical (or "minor") alarm.

Major alarms refer to conditions that could affect the recording of even a single channel, whether storage related, input related, etc. Major alarms require immediate attention. An example could be a hard drive failure, and input module failure, etc.

13. Q - Please identify specifically why “An archiving solution that relies upon “drive mapping” within the recorder itself will not be acceptable” and “The system must not rely upon any type of Windows networking” is mandatorily specified?

A - The system must include an independent archiving solution that can be installed onto and run on a separate Windows based hardware platform for long-term archiving." This is the main requirement set by our customer. We are unable to deviate from this requirement. The two quoted sentences are merely reinforcing the fact that the long term archiving must not be part of the actual recorder by simply storing the data onto a shared, mapped drive. The independent Archiver device will gather the recorders' data via a network connection (or directly via a second NIC to be installed in the recorders) by

securely logging into the recorder via a TCP/IP connection - independent of any Windows networking and Windows log-in. This connection must be capable to automatically and without user intervention or initiation be re-established, should the connection be broken.

Separating the recorder from the Archiver allows the Recorder to perform its main tasks; that is to decode, compress, manage and internally store recordings, as well perform all search and playback tasks. It is our customers requirement that the archiving (and archive management) be separated off to an independent platform.

14. Q - Why must the record in MP3/WAV formats?

A - The recorder must not record in MP3/WAV formats; it must be able to playback and save files in MP3 and WAV Formats.

15. Q - The quantity states 1. The SOW, Paragraph 4 states "two separate recorders". As such, should the "Unit" pricing on the RFQ form be listed as each of two system or "Lot" for the 2 systems.

A – Correct, this is to purchase 2 complete systems.

16. Q - A technical question. Ref: SOW Paragraph T. Should this paragraph read:

"For security reasons, the Recorder must NOT recording natively in MP3/WAV format. In addition, the system must be able to produce copies in WAV and/or MP3 formats."

(Reason is that if recordings are made originally in WAV or MP3 formats, they could be read by unauthorized persons. The recordings must be securely stored.)

A - Correct

17. Q – The “second” recording system and specs are not identified in the requirements. Are we to simply quote out (2) LIKE for LIKE 96 channel capable EACH recording systems to run in parallel to each other?

A - Yes